

1. (Currently amended) A security method for a self-service checkout system comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining identification information of a customer involved in a self-service transaction by a self-service computer of a customer-operated self-service checkout system;

b) determining a risk level associated with the identification information of the customer ~~by the self-service computer;~~

c) determining a security level associated with the risk level ~~by the self-service computer;~~ and

d) configuring the self-service checkout system to complete the self-service transaction by the self-service computer, including configuring the self-service computer to identify products scanned by the customer at the self-service computer and to accept payment from the customer at the self-service computer, in accordance with the security level ~~by the self-service computer.~~

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step a) comprises the step of:

a-1) obtaining the identification information from a loyalty card carried by the customer.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step a) comprises the steps of:

a-1) obtaining biometric data from the customer; and

a-2) determining that the identification information of the customer is associated with the biometric data of the customer.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step b) comprises the steps of:

b-1) storing shopping history data of the customer; and

b-2) assigning a risk level based upon the shopping history data of the customer.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step b) comprises the steps of:

b-1) storing shopping history data of the customer;

b-2) obtaining current transaction data of the customer; and

b-2) assigning a risk level based upon the shopping history data of the customer and the current transaction data of the customer.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step b) comprises the steps of:

b-1) defining categories of shoppers of different

risk levels;

b-2) storing shopping history data of the customer;

b-3) determining a category of the customer by comparing the shopping history data of the customer to the categories of shoppers; and

b-4) determining that the risk level is associated with the category of the customer.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step c) comprises the steps of:

c-1) looking up the risk level of the customer in an established list of risk levels; and

c-2) determining that the security level of the customer is associated with the risk level of the customer in the list.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step d) comprises the step of:

d-1) relaxing security for lower security levels.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein step d) comprises the step of:

d-1) tightening security for higher security levels.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

e) implementing configured security procedures for the security level until the customer leaves the self-service checkout system; and

f) storing data from the transaction in shopper history data of the customer.

11. (Currently amended) A security method for a self-service checkout system comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining identification information of a customer involved in a self-service transaction from a loyalty card carried by the customer by a self-service computer of a customer-operated self-service checkout system;

b) determining a risk level associated with the identification information of the customer, including the steps of

b-1) defining categories of shoppers of different risk levels;

b-2) storing shopping history data of the customer;

b-3) determining a category of the customer by comparing the shopping history data of the customer to the categories of shoppers by the self-service computer; and

b-4) determining that the risk level is associated

with the category of the customer by the self-service computer;

c) determining a security level associated with the risk level from a table of risk levels mapped to security levels by the self-service computer;

d) configuring the self-service checkout system to complete the self-service transaction by the self-service computer, including configuring the self-service computer to identify products scanned by the customer at the self-service computer and to accept payment from the customer at the self-service computer, in accordance with the security level ~~by the self-service computer~~; and

e) implementing configured security procedures for the security level by the self-service computer until the customer leaves the self-service ~~checkout system~~ computer ~~by the self-service computer~~.

12. (Currently amended) A self-service checkout system comprising:

a security system, including a self-service computer for obtaining identification information of a customer involved in a self-service transaction at the self-service checkout system, for determining a risk level associated with the identification information of the customer, for determining a security level associated with the risk level,

and for configuring the self-service checkout system to complete the self-service transaction, including identify products scanned by the customer at the self-service computer and accept payment from the customer at the self-service computer, in accordance with the security level.

13. (Currently amended) A self-service checkout system comprising:

a security system, including a self-service computer for obtaining identification information of a customer involved in a self-service transaction at the self-service checkout system from a loyalty card carried by the customer, for determining a risk level associated with a category of shopping history data most like the shopping history data of the customer, for determining a security level associated with the risk level from a table of risk levels mapped to security levels, for configuring the self-service checkout system to complete the self-service transaction, including identify products scanned by the customer at the self-service computer and accept payment from the customer at the self-service computer, in accordance with the security level, and for implementing configured security procedures for the security level until the customer leaves the self-service computer ~~checkout system~~.

14. (Currently amended) A security method for a self-service checkout system comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining identification information for a customer involved in a self-service transaction at the self-service checkout system by a self-service computer of the self-service checkout system;

b) determining a risk level associated with the identification information of the customer by the self-service computer;

c) determining a security level associated with the risk level by the self-service computer;

d) configuring the self-service checkout system to complete the self-service transaction by the self-service computer, including configuring the self-service computer to identify products scanned by the customer at the self-service computer and to accept payment from the customer at the self-service computer, in accordance with the security level ~~by the self-service computer~~; and

e) interacting with the customer at the self-service computer during the self-service transaction in accordance with the security level by the self-service computer.

15. (New) A security method for a self-service checkout system comprising the steps of:

a) obtaining identification information of a customer

involved in a self-service transaction by a self-service computer of a customer-operated self-service checkout system, the customer-operated self-service checkout system including a scale;

b) determining a risk level associated with the identification information of the customer;

c) determining a security level associated with the risk level; and

d) configuring the self-service checkout system to complete the self-service transaction by the self-service computer, including configuring the self-service computer to identify products scanned by the customer at the self-service computer, configuring the self-service computer to perform weight checks of products placed on the scale by the customer at the self-service computer, and to accept payment from the customer at the self-service computer, in accordance with the security level.